

79. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and
a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and to which the sensor is mechanically coupled, wherein:
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

80. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and
means coupled to the fixation device and for supporting the sensor, wherein:
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

REMARKS

With the cancellation of claims 2, 3, 6, 20-23, 26-28, 38, and 41-69, claims 1, 4, 5, 7-19, 24, 25, 29-37, 39, 40, and 70-84 are now pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration. Applicants also wish to note with appreciation the indication that claims 10, 15-19, 33, and 34 have been allowed, and that claims 3, 6-9, 11, 13, 39, 40, 71-73, and 75 include allowable subject matter.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this application, and with respect to the claims that have been rejected, Applicants have either canceled them or incorporated therein subject matter that is similar enough to what has been deemed allowable by the Examiner to warrant their allowance. In particular, for some of the independent claims that remain rejected, instead of copying the subject matter of allowable claim 3 into these claims, in which case the amended claims would recite that the sensor support is coupled to an end of a stent, these claims have been amended to recite that the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device, instead of to the end of the stent. Applicants submit that the amendment to these claims is similar enough to the subject matter of allowable claim 3 to warrant their allowance. With respect to other claims besides claim 3 deemed allowable by the Examiner, Applicants have either rewritten them in independent form or canceled them in order to incorporate them into base claims that were rejected. Based on these amendments,

Applicants submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner find any typographical errors or other minor mistakes, he is invited to contact the undersigned in order to remedy any such deficiencies.

The present invention is new, non-obvious, and useful. Reconsideration and allowance of the claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In The Claims

Claims 1, 5, 7, 8, 11, 13, 24, 25, 39, 40, 72, 73, and 75-80 are amended as set forth below:

1. (Three Times Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:

a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a non-solder surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the fixation device has an end, and

the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

5. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:

a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the fixation device is an anchoring ring,

the anchoring ring further comprises at least one piece of material having a perimeter and arranged as at least one sinusoid positioned perpendicular to a plane formed by a cross section of the anchoring ring.

7. (Amended) The apparatus of claim [6] 5, wherein the sensor support is coupled to a peak of the sinusoid of the anchoring ring.

8. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the fixation device is an anchoring ring. [The apparatus of claim 5, wherein] the anchoring ring further comprises [comprising] a plurality of ellipses, each having long portions and short portions, joined one to the other at approximately mid-points of the long portions.

11. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen,
comprising:

at least one fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a non-solder surface for receiving the sensor [The apparatus of claim 1], wherein the at least one fixation device includes at least a first [stent] fixation device and a second [stent] fixation device, and the sensor support is coupled between the first [stent] fixation device and the second [stent] fixation device.

13. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen,
comprising:

a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the fixation device is an anchoring ring,

the sensor support comprises at least a first sensor support and a second sensor support displaced apart from one another within the lumen. [The apparatus of claim

12, wherein] the fixation device [having] has a first end and a second end, and

the first sensor support is coupled generally adjacent to the first end and the second sensor support is coupled generally to the second end of the fixation device.

24. (Twice Amended) A method for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising the steps of:

placing the sensor onto a non-solder surface of a sensor support coupled to a fixation device;

inserting the fixation device into the bodily lumen; and

securing the fixation device within the bodily lumen, wherein:

the fixation device has an end, and

the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

25. (Amended) A method for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising the steps of:

placing the sensor into a sensor support coupled to a fixation device in order to form a mechanical coupling between the sensor and the sensor support;

inserting the fixation device into the bodily lumen; and

securing the fixation device within the bodily lumen, wherein:

the fixation device has an end, and

the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

39. (Amended) A method for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, the sensor being incapable of having a perimeter thereof expanded to match that of the bodily lumen, the method comprising the steps of:

inserting the sensor into a bodily lumen; and

coupling the sensor to a section of the bodily lumen [The method of claim 38],

wherein the sensor is coupled to the section of the bodily lumen using sutures.

40. (Amended) A method for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, the sensor being incapable of having a perimeter thereof expanded to match that of the bodily lumen, the method comprising the steps of:

inserting the sensor into a bodily lumen; and

coupling the sensor to a section of the bodily lumen [The method of claim 38],

wherein the sensor is coupled to the section of the bodily lumen using adhesive.

72. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a non-solder surface for receiving the sensor [The apparatus of claim 1], wherein:

the sensor support is capable of maintaining the sensor at a distance away from the fixation device.

73. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and
a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a non-solder surface for receiving the sensor [The apparatus of claim 1], wherein:

the sensor support is capable of maintaining the sensor at a location that is outside of an area encompassed by the fixation device.

75. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:
a fixation device; and
a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a non-solder surface for receiving the sensor [The apparatus of claim 1], wherein:

the sensor support is capable of maintaining the sensor at a location that prevents the sensor from contacting the fixation device.

76. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:

a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the sensor support has a shape that is unaffected by a joining to the sensor,
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

77. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen, comprising:

a fixation device; and

a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for receiving the sensor, wherein:

the sensor support has a predefined and constant shape,
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

78. (Twice Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen,
comprising:

a fixation device; and
a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and including a surface for
receiving the sensor, wherein:

the sensor support is formed of a non-fluid material,
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

79. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen,
comprising:

a fixation device; and
a sensor support coupled to the fixation device and to which the sensor is
mechanically coupled, wherein:

the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.

80. (Amended) Apparatus for fixation of a sensor in a bodily lumen,
comprising:

a fixation device; and
means coupled to the fixation device and for supporting the sensor, wherein:
the fixation device has an end, and
the sensor support is coupled to the end of the fixation device.